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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography reviews 41 pieces of educational software that are marketed for use in basic reading and conversational English programs. A variety of educational games, drill and practice programs, tutorials, problem-solving programs, and utility and authoring systems is included. Reading, math, writing, vocabulary, grammar, spelling, journalism, letter recognition, science, and geography are among the subject areas covered by the individual programs. Each review contains some or all of the following: product name; publisher; cost; publication date; hardware requirements; reading level; interest level; subject area; program type; target audience (student, administrative, individual, group); ratings of the program's user-friendliness, thematic relevance to adults, worth for adult beginning readers, clarity of documentation, and ease of management; comments; and an annotation. (MN)

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Computer Assisted Instruction

REVIEW

VOL. 1

An Annotated List of Software for Basic Reading and Conversational English

CE048867

Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc.

5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, New York 13214-1846
Telephone: (315) 445-8000

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INTRODUCTION

This list of Computer Assisted Instructional Software was annotated and compiled, from three separate studies, by Leslie Rich, Chair of the Computer Software Review Task Force of the LVA National Board--Research and Development Committee.

The three studies of software useful for teaching basic reading and conversational English skills were funded by separate Library Services and Construction Act Grants. The grants were awarded to Mid-York Library System, Utica, NY, Queens Borough Library, Jamaica, NY, and the Southbridge Library, Southbridge, MA.

Members of the National Task Force responsible for the evaluation of the software listed in this Review are Leslie Rich, LV Queensboro Library, Mary Lou Caskey, LV Mohawk Valley, and Joanne Hammerli, LV of Southbridge.

This is LVA's first edition of "the Review" and the editors have included several blank evaluation forms at the end of the list for users to fill out and submit to LVA for inclusion in future CAI Reviews. Please send evaluations to V.K. Lawson, Vice President, Publishing and Marketing, Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc., 5795 Widewaters Parkway, Syracuse, NY, 13214.

Chip Carlin
V.K. Lawson, Ph.D.
Editors

October, 1986

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Alphabet Sounds

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Data Command
P.O. Box 548
Kankakee, IL 60901

COST: $84.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: ____ INTEREST LEVEL: K-2
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only_
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					X
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:				X	
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:				X	
Management is easily accessible:	NA				

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? ____

COMMENTS: This program is for the student who doesn't know the alphabet, consonants and vowels. Screen shows letter, upper and lower case, and eight pictures of words beginning with the letter.

ANNOTATION:

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Alpine Skier

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Data Command
P.O. Box 548
Kankakee, Il 60901
815-933-7735

COST: $115.34 DATE PUBLISHED: '81 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: _____

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): _____ Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: ____ Tutorial: ____

USAGE: Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					X
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:					X
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:				X	
Management is easily accessible:	NA				

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: Good graphics.
Presentation juvenile.

ANNOTATION:

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Appleworks

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Apple Computer

COST: $250.00 DATE PUBLISHED:_____ HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: _____

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: _____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: _____
Academic (be specific): _____ Utility/Authoring: X
Writing: _____ Problem Solving: _____
Other: _____ Tutorial: _____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative X Student Use Only_
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	NA				
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: If you have only $250.00 to spend and lots of students on many different reading levels, an integrated program plus a little imagination might be your answer (it's also helpful for administration). If you are in doubt, ask Toni Stone of "Playing to Win" for a demo on the why's and how's of a word processor, data base and spreadsheet for new readers!

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Bank Street Writer

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Broderbund
17 Paul Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

COST: $69.95 DATE PUBLISHED:____ HARDWARE: Apple IIe/c
READING LEVEL: 3 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading:___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice:___
Academic (be specific):___ Utility/Authoring: X
Writing:___ Problem Solving:___
Other:___ Tutorial:___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative X Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:				X	

How many students are using the program?____ For how long? ____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: The newest version is a great improvement over earlier ones, especially the ease in changing modes; However students still have difficulty getting from one menu to another. Once learned, Bank Street is quick and easy.

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Basic Math Competency Skill Building

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Educational Activities
P.O. Box 392
Freeport, NY 11520
800-645-3739

COST: _____ DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 4 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: ABE
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): *math Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: ____ Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use OnlyX
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? 6 For how long? 3 mo.

COMMENTS: *Whole numbers, tables and rounding, fractions, decimals, graphs, percent, measuring. This is an excellent program which I would highly recommend. The students find it very satisfying to work through and are gaining a great deal from it. The management system is particularly efficient.

ANNOTATION: This is an excellent program. The content is comprehensive with good sequential coverage of material. The presentation is good and provides the student with reinforcement for incorrect answers. The management system is excellent. There are eight disks to the set.

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Beamer

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Data Command
P.O. Box 548
Kankakee, Il 60901
815-933-7725

COST: $39.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: Gr. 3-5 (remedial 6&7)

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X
Academic (be specific): ____
Writing: ____
Other: Ed. game

PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Utility/Authoring: ____
Problem Solving: ____
Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					X
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:				X	
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:					
Management is easily accessible:	NA				

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: Fair to good graphics

Sound is annoying, but you don't have to use the sound.

Prefixes, base words, suffixes

ANNOTATION:

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Cloze - Plus

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Milliken
1100 Research Blvd.
P.O. Box 21579
St. Louis, MO 63132-0579
314-991-4220

COST: $150 per level DATE PUBLISHED: '83 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 3 - 8 INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): _____ Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:				X	

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: There are five stories per disk and four disks per level providing the student with 20 reading passages on his/her own reading level. The approach is a cloze technique providing immediate branching and clues when requested. There is animation, but it is hardly insulting to adults. A good program for stronger readers seeking specific skill reinforcement. Grade levels are INDEPENDENT reading levels.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Comprehension Power

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Milliken
1100 Research Blvd.
P.O. Box 21579
St. Louis, MO 63132-0579
314-991-4220

COST: $150 per level DATE PUBLISHED: '81 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 1 -12 INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): Comp. Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:		X			
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:				X	

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: A good program for increasing fluency as well as comprehension. Comp. Power allows the student to set his/her reading speed through a passage and provides comprehension questions. The management is a bit sticky to get used to, but well worth the effort, especially if you want to keep track of the student's progress. (4 disks per level each containing 33 lessons-- 12 stories per level). Grade levels are INDEPENDENT reading levels.

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Crossword Magic

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Mindscape, Inc.
3444 Dundee Rd.
Northbrook, Il 60062

COST: $49.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '85 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: All INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: X
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: Vocabulary Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: A wonderful reinforcement tool for students of all reading levels. The management is easy. The newest version is clear, concise, and an improvement over the past versions. All that is needed is a list of words and sentences or clues. The sky's the limit with this authoring program.

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Crypto Cube

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Designware, Inc.
185 Berry St. Bldg.3
Suite 158
San Francisco, CA 94107

COST: $39.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '83 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 3 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: X
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: Vocabulary Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups X Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:		X			
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: There are fifty puzzles on the master disk and a simple management system for creating new puzzles designed by and for students. Students choose spaces and are either given a vowel or a "?". Students guess at the missing letter and are rewarded with a bonus or losing points (which seems to be fairly irrelevant). A drawback is that words are not presented in context, but only in lists. Recommendation: Use only known words.

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Elementary Prereading and Counting

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Minnesota Educational Consortium
Lexington Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55112
612-638-0627

COST: _____ DATE PUBLISHED: '81 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: 1st. gr. or lower
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: _____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): _____ Utility/Authoring: _____
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: Alphabet Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only_
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:			X		
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: A little too simple.

Good for making a low level reader confident with using the computer.

ANNOTATION:

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Elementary Vol. 12 Language Arts

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): MECC
2520 Broadway Dr.
St. Paul, MN 55113
612-638-0627

COST: $43.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '81 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 2.0 - 2.9 Spache INTEREST LEVEL: Gr. 1 - 6
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: Spelling Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:			X		
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:				X	
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:			X		
Management is easily accessible:	NA				

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: Hangman, Scamble, Spell 1, Wonder Word Games

Word lists start out easy (3 letter words) and progress to more difficult. Scramble game can be printed off for student to work on at home for extra practice.

ANNOTATION:

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: ESL Picture Grammar

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Gessler Educational Software
900 Broadway
New York, NY 10003-1291
212-673-3113

COST: $59.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: Beg. INTEREST LEVEL: ESL

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): Grammar Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: ____ Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:			X		
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:				X	
Program is user friendly:				X	
Documentation is clear and concise:				X	
Management is easily accessible:			X		

How many students are using the program? 67 For how long? ____

COMMENTS: Picture Grammar is picky about how it accepts student answers and places a time limit on the student to type the answer-- both very unpopular features of the program. Nevertheless, it is very effective in reviewing basic sentence structure (subject, verb,object) for beginning ESL students.

ANNOTATION: This program covers basic sentence structure. Users learn the subject- verb- object pattern in past, present, future, and progressive tenses. It's good in its ability to do the above, but has many drawbacks. Input of the answers can be difficult because the program is picky about how it receives the answer. It also automatically supplies an answer after a certain period of time. Not good for the student who needs time. Many of the constructions are a bit odd because the program randomly constructs sentences.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Essential Idioms in English

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Regents
2 Park Ave.
New York, NY 10016
800-822-8202

COST: $99.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '85 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: Intermed. - Adv. INTEREST LEVEL: ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): Idiom Exp. Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:			X		

How many students are using the program? 20 For how long? varies

COMMENTS: ESL students like this program.

ANNOTATION: This three disk package helps teach and reinforce English idioms. It is well written with clear instructions. There is a good help screen; it records user progress, and allows for easy movement through the program at will. There are four basic parts: intro. to new idioms, multiple choice exercises, a written exercise, and a game. All are very good except the game. The input of the answers is a little difficult because the program accepts input slowly.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: The Factory

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Sunburst
39 Washington Ave.
Pleasantville, NY 10570-9971

COST: $59.00 DATE PUBLISHED: _____ HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: INTEREST LEVEL:
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: x PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ____
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: x
Other: ____ Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only x
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups x Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:		x			
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		x			
Program is user friendly:		x			
Documentation is clear and concise:	x				
Management is easily accessible:	na				

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION:Using animation and color graphics (color monitor not needed), this 3 level program allows the user(s) to create geometric "products" on a simulated assembly line. Sequential thinking and problem solving are the top two skills addressed here. Best used in small groups of differing languages or reading levels. A 200 page workbook with games, activities, and worksheets is available for $25.00. An instructional video tape is free for 30 day loan upon request. Video is said to be geared to "kids."

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Fetchin' Folks

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Data Command
PO. Box 548
Kankakee, Il 60901
815-933-7725

COST: $75.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: ____ INTEREST LEVEL: Gr. 2-4 (remedial 5&6)

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X
Academic (be specific): Math
Writing: ____
Other: ____

PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ____
Utility/Authoring: ____
Problem Solving: X
Tutorial: ____

USAGE:(Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:				X	
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:			X		
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:	NA				

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? ____

COMMENTS: Juvenile

Synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, compounds

Math-- all four disciplines

ANNOTATION:

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Grammar Mastery Series: A,B,C

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Regents
2 Park Ave.
New York, NY 10016
212-889-2788

COST: $195.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '80 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: All INTEREST LEVEL: ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): Grammar Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:					X
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:			X		
Management is easily accessible:			X		

How many students are using the program? 130 For how long? varies

COMMENTS: This series is made up of several different exercises-- some are very good and some are very bad. (About 65% are good). Users are generally not allowed the option to skip or repeat. Manipulation instructions vary from exercise to exercise. A "pain in the neck" start-up disk is necessary to use the series. Nevertheless, GM is the only comprehensive review of grammar on the market for ESL students; to a certain extent, it is effective.

ANNOTATION: Each series contains between five and seven disks. They take the ESL student from basic English grammar (present tense of 'to be') to very advanced grammatical concepts (some very unreal). At best, the exercises are very good with clear instructions, sound drill and practice work, and positive reinforcement that explains and corrects mistakes. At worst, they are a disaster! Some instructions are so poor, a native speaker would be in trouble. All use a "start-up" disk each time to boot creating time problems for staff and potential crashes of the disk.

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: How to Read in the Content Areas

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Educational Activities
P.O. Box 392
Freeport, NY 11520
800-645-3739

COST: $59.00 DATE PUBLISHED: ____ HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 5 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: ABE

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: x
Academic (be specific): see below Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: ____ Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only x
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:		X			
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:			X		
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:		na			

How many students are using the program? 2 For how long? 3 mo.

COMMENTS: Subject area: Science, social studies, literature, mathematics. The subject areas of social studies and literature are excellent for students reading at, or above, 6th. grade equiv., but the science and math areas require knowledge of concepts which my students do not have. These two areas would only be useful to my students if they were used to enhance a specific teaching area.

ANNOTATION: An excellent variety of materials provides the user with a large choice of selections. Reading, reviewing, and multiple-choice questions make up the format of this program. Two drawbacks: the vocabulary level of some passages is too high for the average ABE student and some lessons are too long. The average time is 15-20 minutes. There is no management system.

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Language Arts: Capitalization, Quotes, Punctuation

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Educational Activities
P.O. Box 392
Freeport, NY 11520
800-645-3739

COST: NA DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 4- adult INTEREST LEVEL: ABE
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): LA Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: ____ Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:			X		
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	NA				

How many students are using the program? 3 For how long? 3 mo.

COMMENTS: These programs are very useful for reinforcing Language Arts lessons with students who need to move at a slower pace. There is no management system and although students can fill in their own record sheets, this is not very satisfactory.

ANNOTATION: Although this program is listed as tutorial, usage has shown that it works best as a reinforcement and review tool. The format is excellent and easily utilized by students. There is no management system; there are reproducible record sheets instead.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: LOGO

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Terrapin
222 Third St.
Cambridge, MA 02142
617-492-8816

COST: $99.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '83 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 2 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: X
Other: Programming Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups X Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:			X		
Management is easily accessible:		X			

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: The original LOGO developed at M.I.T. Terrapin LOGO is suitable for beginners up through advanced level readers. Since the manual is a bit much for most of us, Sunburst produces a wonderful off-line product called "Exploring Logo" for $55.00 This product consists of a set of activity cards which take the user from booting up to fairly advanced programming. If you buy LOGO, you should consider this packet. "Exploring Logo" is also available for Apple Logo. Using LOGO with ESL students will probably require a lot of preparation time.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Magic Slate

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Sunburst
39 Washington Ave
Pleasantville, NY 10570-9971
800-431-1934

COST: $99.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '85 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 2- adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR, ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: X Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative X Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: This unique word processor allows for unlimited growth for your students. At its most basic level, the picture driven menu allows even the low level reader to be successful. The 80 column is an extremely sophisticated instrument that is excellent for administrative needs as well as student usage. A spelling checker will be released shortly.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Math Sequences

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Milliken Pub. Co.
1100 Research Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63132
314-991-4220

COST: $150.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '80 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: _____

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___
Academic (be specific): Math
Writing: ___
Other: ___

PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Utility/Authoring: ___
Problem Solving: X
Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:				X	
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:					X
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:			X		
Management is easily accessible:				X	

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: Approach a bit childish.
Progression good: begins at a very simple level and progresses to difficult problems in all four disciplines.

ANNOTATION:

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Missing Links-- English Editor

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Sunburst
39 Washington Ave.
Pleasantville, NY 10570-9971
800-431-1934

COST: $59.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 3 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: X
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups X Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: MISSING LINKS is a Cloze game activity. There are nine levels of difficulty and this version allows for specific passages that a student has written. The management is easy, the instruction is clear. Recommendation: Use only passages that the student is familiar with. MISSING LINKS provides the context use of the words that CRYPTO CUBE does not. There are four other versions of MISSING LINKS, but not recommended for adult users.

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Syracuse, NY 13241

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: The Newsroom

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Springboard
7807 Creekridge Circle
Minneapolis, MN 55435
612-944-3912

COST: $59.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 4 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR, ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: X
Writing: X Problem Solving: ____
Other: Journalism Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use OnlyX
Student/Tutor TogetherX GroupsX Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:		X			
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:		X			

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: A great program to get students conversing, planning, writing, editing,etc. It's a bit cumbersome to use at first and a slow program in that there is a great deal of disk swapping, but the final results are worth every bit of labor. Students are proud of what they produce. The Clip Art Desk is available for $29.95 and increases the photo lab collection considerably.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: P.A.V.E.

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): I/CT
10 Stepar Place
Huntington Station, NY 11746

COST: $80.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '83 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: O-R INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: Letter Recognition Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:		X			
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:			X		
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:		X			

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: Best for non-readers, this program works on left-to-right eye tracking and letter recognition. Student must take a pre-test to enter the program and the results will override staff programming. Recommendation: Use for only 5 minutes or less at a lesson. There are limitations.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Phonet (Elementary Vol. II)

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): MECC
2520 Broadway Drive
St. Paul, MN 55113
612-638-0627

COST: $43.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '81 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: ____ INTEREST LEVEL: Gr. 1-6
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ____
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: sound Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only_
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:		X			
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: Subject idea is good.

Would be more appropriate if program made actual phonic sounds.

Students found program very challenging.

ANNOTATION:

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Syracuse, NY 13214

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: The Print Shop

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Broderbund
17 Paul Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903
415-479-1170

COST: $49.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 3 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR, ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: X
Writing: X Problem Solving: ___
Other: creative Tutorial: ___

USAGE:(Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ GroupsX Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? For how long?

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: Create signs, cards, banners-- your students will quickly and easily master the menus. Creative writing without fuss. The manual is clear and easy to understand. A great plus. Imaginative ideas flourish with this program. Non-readers can handle this program with help. The GRAPHICS LIBRARY is available for $24.95.

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Read and Solve Math Problems

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Educational Activities
P.O. Box 392
Freeport, NY 11520
800-645-37399

COST: _____ DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 5- adult INTEREST LEVEL: ABE
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): math Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:			X		
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:				X	
Program is user friendly:				X	
Documentation is clear and concise:					X
Management is easily accessible:		X			

How many students are using the program? 1 For how long? 3 mo.

COMMENTS: The wording of questions and the general presentation of this program is very confusing to my students and has led to much frustration. This is a shame, for as one student who has persevered has discovered, the content is very relevant and useful. In addition, the "spelling branch" of the program is very good.

ANNOTATION: While the content of this program contains some very useful material, the overall program is just average. The format is extremely poor with obscure wording of questions which has led to unnecessary mistakes and frustration for the user. The management system is just adequate.

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Reading Around Words

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): I/CT
10 Stepar Place
Huntington Station, NY 11746

COST: $150 per level DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 4- 12 INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: Vocabulary Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: There are four disks per level; each disk contains 60 words for a total of 240 per level. There are optional pre and post-tests and each word is presented in a contextual sentence, a contextual paragraph, a quiz, and finally, spelling. Recommendation: Higher level students who want vocabulary practice. The management is easier than other I/CT programs while still providing a good tracking system.

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Reading Comprehension

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): BrainBank, Inc.
Fifth Ave.
New York, NY 10001
212-686-6565

COST: $60.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '82 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: ages 9 up

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X
Academic (be specific): _____
Writing: ____
Other: ____

PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Utility/Authoring: _____
Problem Solving: ____
Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:				X	
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:				X	
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:	NA				

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: Covers: (1) How to recall details
(2) How to identify the main idea
(3) How to draw conclusions
(4) How to put things in order

ANNOTATION:

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Regions of the United States

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Educational Activities
P.O. Box 392
Freeport, NY 11520
800-645--3739

COST: ____ DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 4- adult INTEREST LEVEL: ABE
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): U.S. Geog. Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:		X			
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:		X			

How many students are using the program? 3 For how long? 3 mo.

COMMENTS: An excellent program for reinforcing social studies lessons; POPULAR because the individual lessons are quick to work through.

ANNOTATION: This program is recommended as a drill and practice rather than a tutorial program. There is good coverage of material, suitable for reading levels as low as the 4th. grade when used as a follow-up to initial teaching. The format is a self-paced one and adequate, and the management system is good.

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Rocky's Boots

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): The Learning Co.

COST: $49.95 DATE PUBLISHED: _____ HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 3 - 8 INTEREST LEVEL: BR
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): Math Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: X
Other: ___ Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only_
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:			X		
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:					
Documentation is clear and concise:					
Management is easily accessible:					

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: The first of the really good problem solving programs. The user(s) must "logically" think out and create a "logic machine" using sequential thinking skills and guessing what the results will be. Don't overlook this program, but look at others while you're at it.

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Science Content Reading Area

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Educational Activities
P.O. Box 392
Freeport, NY 11520
800-645-3739

COST: _____ DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: ABE

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: x
Academic (be specific): science tility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ____ Tutorial: x

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only x
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:					X
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:			X		
Management is easily accessible:	X				

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: The program is for Levels 4 - 8, but I have found that this is not appropriate even for my students with above 6th. level reading. It requires a knowledge of scientific concepts and vocabulary that they do not have and the program does not explain. It will be useful only as additional drill for specific science lessons.

ANNOTATION: This is a very advanced program and requires a knowledge of vocabulary and scientific experience which many ABE students may not have, even those students reading above the 6th. grade level. Be careful. In addition, incorrect answers and new vocabulary are not adequately dealt with. The management system, however, is good.

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Sentence Combining 1, 2

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Milliken
1100 Research Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63132
800-643-0008

COST: $155 per level DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 3 - 10 INTEREST LEVEL: ESL/BR/ABE/pre-GED

SUBJECT AREA-		PROGRAM-	
Reading: X		Drill and Practice: X	
Academic (be specific):	Grammar	Utility/Authoring:	
Writing: X		Problem Solving:	
Other:		Tutorial: X	

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:			X		
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:			X		
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:			X		
Management is easily accessible:		X			

How many students are using the program? 25 For how long? varies

COMMENTS: Fairly popular with LV students. Somewhat difficult.
If tutor is assisting, needs to be familiar with the program

ANNOTATION: This program works with the ESL population quite well. It teaches users how to form more complex sentences using a variety of connectors. The instructions are clear, but sometimes the the vocabulary used in conveying a point is more difficult than the program vocabulary. This is a drawback for both BR and ESL users. Otherwise the program is written in a clear and concise form; student records are kept; difficulty levels can be changed; management is clear and easy to use.

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Ship Shape

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Data Command
P.O. Box 548
Kankakee, Il 60901
815-933-7725

COST: $75.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: Gr. 4-6 (remedial 7&8)
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ____
Academic (be specific): Math Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: ____ Tutorial: X

USAGE:(Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:				X	
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:				X	
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:				X	

How many students are using the program? ___ For how long? ___

COMMENTS: Too graphically oriented

Math-- four disciplines

ANNOTATION:

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Spelling Vol. 1 - Primary

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): MECC
2520 Broadway Drive
St. Paul, MN 55113
612-638-0627

COST: $44.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '80 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 2.0 - 2.9 Spache INTEREST LEVEL: Gr. 1-6
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: Spelling Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:				X	
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:	NA				

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: With the large lettering, it is easy to read.

Timed exercise feature makes this a bit difficult.

ANNOTATION:

10/86 Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. 5795 Widewaters Parkway
Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Spelltronics

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Educational Activities
Freeport, NY 11520

COST: $69.99 DATE PUBLISHED: '83 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: Gr. level 4 INTEREST LEVEL: _____
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): Spelling Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: ____ Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					X
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:				X	
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:				X	
Management is easily accessible:					X

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: Interest level low; too repetitious

ANNOTATION:

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Storyboard

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Holt, Rinehart, Winston

COST: $79.95 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 4 - adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: X
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups X Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:			X		
Documentation is clear and concise:			X		
Management is easily accessible:				X	

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: This reinforcement game turns a piece of student writing into a total cloze passage. User types in a word and it is searched for and inserted where appropriate, assuming spelling is correct. If the word is not in the passage, a comment "bad luck" shows up at the bottom. Plenty of help is available easily, and authoring is also, once you get the hang of it. The dependability of the disk could be better.

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Typing Tutor III

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Simon & Shuster

COST: $49.95 DATE PUBLISHED: _____ HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: 4 -adult INTEREST LEVEL: BR, ESL

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: x
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ____
Other: Typing Tutorial: _____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only x
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:		X			

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: What can one say about a typing program, except that it doesn't necessarily have to be a typing program. One use is to familiarize students with the keyboard, space bar, and return key. Since the user is given a progress report frequently, students almost always see improvement -- even in their first visit to the computer. Reading levels of the users can be much lower than the 4th. The game resembles a space invaders format with letters flying out of the sky faster and faster; you've got to be a good typist to save your country!

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Vocabulary Mastery A&B

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): Regents
2 Park Ave
New York, NY 10016
800-822-8202

COST: $175.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '84 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: Beg. to Int. INTEREST LEVEL: ESL
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Academic (be specific): Vocab. Dev. Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: X

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together X Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:		X			
Program is user friendly:		X			
Documentation is clear and concise:		X			
Management is easily accessible:			X		

How many students are using the program? _____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS: ESL students in LV programs can usually use the program on their own.

ANNOTATION: Each series contains five or six diskettes. The program gives isolated practice with vocabulary out of context. It's not very difficult to manipulate, but not easy either. The directions are at a higher level than the vocabulary the student is practicing. A problem: all of the disks must be used with a separate "start-up" disk EACH time it is used-- making life a bit more difficult for staff. Also the "start-up" disks crash frequently. Backups, start-ups, must be purchased separately.

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: Word Memory-- Survival Vocabulary

PUBLISHER (Name/Address): I/CT
10 Stepar Place
Huntington Station, NY 11746

COST: $80.00 DATE PUBLISHED: '83 HARDWARE: Apple IIe
READING LEVEL: ____ INTEREST LEVEL: BR/ESL

SUBJECT AREA- Reading: X
Academic (be specific): ____
Writing: ____
Other: ____

PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: X
Utility/Authoring: ____
Problem Solving: ____
Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative__ Student Use Only X
Student/Tutor Together__ Groups__ Other(name)__

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:	X				
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:	X				
Program is user friendly:	X				
Documentation is clear and concise:	X				
Management is easily accessible:			X		

How many students are using the program? ____ For how long? ____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION: Part of a total package, WM is best used in conjunction with the Read-Card Program which includes cards, tapes, and activity sheets. Independent usage requires student to have an independent reading level of 1.0.
WM is good for left to right eye tracking, sight word recognition, and short term memory. It contains 254 words that I/CT considers imperative.

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: _____

PUBLISHER (Name/Address):

COST: _____ DATE PUBLISHED: _____ HARDWARE: _____
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: _____
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative___ Student Use Only___
Student/Tutor Together___ Groups___ Other(name)___

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:					
Program is user friendly:					
Documentation is clear and concise:					
Management is easily accessible:					

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION:

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Syracuse, NY 13214

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SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: _____

PUBLISHER (Name/Address):

COST: _____ DATE PUBLISHED: _____ HARDWARE: _____
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: _____
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ___ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ___
Academic (be specific): ___ Utility/Authoring: ___
Writing: ___ Problem Solving: ___
Other: ___ Tutorial: ___

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative___ Student Use Only___
Student/Tutor Together___ Groups___ Other(name)___

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:					
Program is user friendly:					
Documentation is clear and concise:					
Management is easily accessible:					

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION:

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Syracuse, NY 13214

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

PRODUCT NAME: _____

PUBLISHER (Name/Address):

COST: _____ DATE PUBLISHED: _____ HARDWARE: _____
READING LEVEL: _____ INTEREST LEVEL: _____
SUBJECT AREA- Reading: ____ PROGRAM- Drill and Practice: ____
Academic (be specific): ____ Utility/Authoring: ____
Writing: ____ Problem Solving: ____
Other: ____ Tutorial: ____

USAGE: (Check all that apply) Administrative___ Student Use Only___
Student/Tutor Together___ Groups___ Other(name)___

Characteristics --Please rate 1 -Excellent 2 -Good 3 -Avg 4 -Fair 5 -poor

	1	2	3	4	5
Theme is generally relevant to adults:					
Program is worthwhile for adult new readers:					
Program is user friendly:					
Documentation is clear and concise:					
Management is easily accessible:					

How many students are using the program?_____ For how long? _____

COMMENTS:

ANNOTATION:

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